

Message Text

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TO USICA WASHDC
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UNCLAS STOCKHOLM 2002

USICA FOR ECA
STATE FOR DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OVIP, OEXC, SW, ELAB
SUBJ: VOLUNTARY VISITORS: SWEDISH DELEGATION TO AFSCME
CONVENTION

1. G.A. OLSSON, MEMBER OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE SWEDISH UNION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT OFFICERS (SKTF) AND GORAN BAECKLUND, ASSISTANT GENERAL SECRETARY OF SKTF WILL BE ATTENDING THE CONVENTION OF THE AMERICAN FEDERATION OF STATE, COUNTY AND MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES (AFSCME) IN LAS VEGAS FROM JUNE 26-30. THEY HAVE ASKED THE EMBASSY TO ASSIST THEM IN ARRANGING A PROGRAM FROM JULY 1 TO JULY 8. THEY WOULD LIKE A CHANCE TO VISIT AN AFSCM LOCAL UNION FOR THREE OR FOUR DAYS AND AN OPPORTUNITY TO SPEND 3 OR 4 DAYS IN WASHINGTON MEETING WITH OFFICIALS AT AFSCME HEADQUARTERS, THE LABOR DEPARTMENT, AFL-CIO, ETC. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS THAT USICA/ECA SEEK THE ASSISTANCE OF DOL/ILAB TO HELP THIS IMPORTANT GROUP DURING THEIR VISIT TO THE U.S. LABATT HAS ALSO WRITTEN DIRECTLY TO AFSCME SECRETARY-TREASURER WILLIAM LUCY WHO VISITED SWEDEN IN MARCH 1978 WITH THE SAME REQUEST AND SUGGESTS THAT ILAB COORDINATE ITS EFFORTS WITH HIM OR HIS DESIGNEE AT AFSCME. PLEASE INFORM SWEDISH LABOR ATTACHE BJORN PETTERSSON.

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2. MR. OLSSON IS THE PAST PRESIDENT OF HIS LOCAL UNION IN SKELLEFTEA IN NORTHERN SWEDEN. HE CURRENTLY IS THE CHIEF OF THE CHILD AND OLDER PEOPLE'S DEPARTMENT OF THE COUNTY WELFARE BOARD IN HIS HOME TOWN. HE WAS BORN IN 1929. HE IS AN ACTIVE SOCIAL DEMOCRAT AND CURRENTLY SERVES ON HIS COUNTRY LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL. HE HAS NEVER VISITED THE U.S.

BEVIRE. HIS ENGLISH IS POOR.

3. MR. BAECKLUND SERVED PREVIOUSLY AS THE INFORMATION SECRETARY OF THE WHITE COLLAR WORKERS FEDERATION (TCO). HE WAS THE INFORMATION SECRETARY OF THE LABOR DEPARTMENT IN THE LAST ADMINISTRATION. HE IS TRAINED AS A JOURNALIST AND BEGAN HIS UNION CAREER AS A LABOR REPORTER. HE WAS BORN 1932 IN STOCKHOLM. HE VISITED THE U.S. FREQUENTLY IN THE EARLY 1950'S AS A MERCHANT SEAMAN. HE SPEAKS GOOD ENGLISH AND CAN SERVE AS AN INTERPRETER FOR MR. OLSSON.
KENNEDY-MINOTT

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